

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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OCT 20 2003

Technology Center 2600

Applicant : Birk.

Serial No. : 09/918,593

Filed : July 31, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2661

For : METHOD FOR PRODUCING A CONNECTION  
REDUNDANCY FOR A SERIAL COMMUNICATION  
SYSTEM HAVING A MASTER UNIT AND A PLURALITY F  
SLAVE UNITS, WHICH ARE INTERCONNECTED AS A  
CONCATENATION OF POINT-TO-POINT CONNECTIONS  
IN LINE TOPOLOGY, AND CORRESPONDING SERIAL  
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal  
Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 14, 2003

Date of Deposit

Bradley B. Geist  
Attorney Name27,551

PTO Reg. No.

[Signature]  
SignatureOctober 14 2003

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, submitted herewith are a

PTO Form 1449 identifying documents disclosing prior art that may be material to the

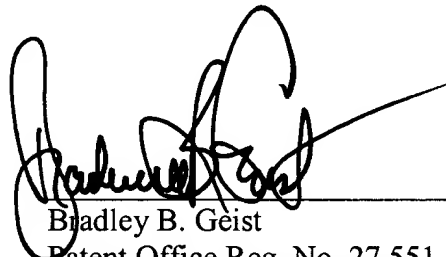
## PATENT

patentability of the invention claimed in the above-identified application and copies of the documents identified in the Form 1449. The documents were mentioned in the procedure of the German Patent Office. English-language translations are not readily available, however, Abstracts are attached to each reference.

Identification of the listed references in the PTO 1449 is not to be construed as an admission of the Applicant(s) or the attorneys of the Applicant(s) that such references are available as "prior art" against the subject application.

This statement is submitted more than 3 months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, submission of this Information Disclosure Statement requires no fee. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the payment of any fees required in association with this communication to Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bradley B. Geist  
Patent Office Reg. No. 27,551

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Enclosures

Serial No.  
09/918,593

Applicant  
Birk

Filing Date  
July 31, 2001

Group  
2661

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Date Considered

\* Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.